

REMARKS

Amendments to claims that were previously submitted, including in the July 15, 2004 Amendment, have been resubmitted in the proper format as described in MPEP 1453. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.173(b)(2)(ii) and 1.173(c), a separate listing is provided of all patent claims showing the status (pending or canceled) of each claim as of the date of this amendment.

Claims 1 and 3-23 were rejected as being based upon a defective reissue declaration under 35 U.S.C. § 251. A Supplemental Oath signed by each of the inventors in accordance with 37 CFR 1.175(b)(1) is submitted herewith.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectively urged that all of the present claims of the application are patentable and in a condition for allowance. The undersigned attorney can be reached at (310) 824-5555 to facilitate prosecution of this application, if necessary.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

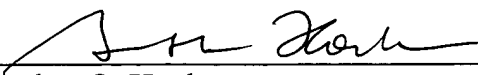
REQUEST FOR TWO-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicants respectfully request a two-month extension of time to respond to the Final Office Action dated August 16, 2004, in the above-identified application.

The requisite fee of \$450.00 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) is enclosed herewith. Please charge any additional fee or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 06-2425. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

By:   
Gunther O. Hanke  
Registration No. 32,989

GOH:kh

Amendment and Request for Two-Month Extension of Time dated December 16, 2004  
In response to Office Action mailed August 16, 2004

Howard Hughes Center  
6060 Center Drive, Tenth Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90045  
Telephone: (310) 824-5555  
Facsimile: (310) 824-9696  
Customer No. 24201